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Message Text

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62
ACTION DLOS-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 EUR-25 CG-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 FEA-02 AID-20 CEQ-02

COA-02 COME-00 EB-12 EPA-04 IO-14 NSF-04 SCI-06

ACDA-19 AEC-11 AGR-20 DOTE-00 FMC-04 INT-08 JUSE-00

OMB-01 DRC-01 /254 W
---------- 107285
R 021935Z OCT 74
FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4107
INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO
AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE
AMEMBASSY PORT AU SPAIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 8379

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EFIS, LOS, MX
SUBJECT: 200-MILE PATRIMONIAL SEA

1. IN CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR ON SEPTEMBER 27 (SEPTELS, NOTAL), PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA PUT GREAT EMPHASIS ON CONCEPT OF 200-MILE PATRIMONIAL SEA IN GULF OF MEXICO AND CARIBBEAN SEA. POURING OVER A SET OF MAPS, HE SAID IT WAS NECESSARY FOR COASTAL STATES TO BEGIN ADVANCE PLANNING FOR REGULATION OF 200-MILE ZONE. IN THIS REGARD HE HAS IDEA OF SETTING UP ARRANGEMENTS FOR PRE-CONFERENCE BETWEEN COASTAL STATES. HE ENVISAGED TWO SETS OF TALKS, ONE FOR CARIBBEAN STATES AND THE OTHER FOR GULF STATES.
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2. ECHEVERRIA FELT THESE TALKS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT IN VIEW OF CUBA'S GEOGRAPHICAL PRESENCE IN BOTH GROUPS. SUCH PRIOR ARRANGEMENTS WOULD COUNTER SOVIET INFLUENCE IN CUBA AND HELP ESTABLISH "MORE CIVILIZED RELATIONSHIP" BETWEEN IT AND ITS NEIGHBORS.

3. HE ENVISAGED CARIBBEAN TALKS TAKING PLACE IN KINGSTON, WHICH IN TURN WOULD STRENGTHEN JAMAICA VIS-A-VIS CUBA AND HELP DRAW FORMER MORE INTO THE HEALTHY LATIN AMERICAN ORBIT REPRESENTED BY MEXICO ITSELF.

4. ECHEVERRIA SAID THAT HE HAD ALREADY DISPATCHED A SPECIAL MISSION COMPOSED OF AMBASSADOR CASTANEDA (WHO HEADED MEXICAN DELEGATION TO LOS) AND AMBASSADOR TELLO AND ANOTHER FUNCTIONARY TO VISIT VENEZUELA, COLOMBIA AND CARIBBEAN STATES, INCLUDING CUBA, TO DISCUSS CONCEPT OF MEETINGS FOR UTILIZATION AND REGULATION OF 200-MILE ZONE.

5. AMBASSADOR POINTED OUT THE LIKELY RELUCTANCE OF SOME PROSPECTIVE PARTICIPANTS TO ENGAGE IN THIS TYPE OF EXERCISE PRIOR TO DEFINITIVE LAW OF THE SEA AGREEMENT. COMMENT: THERE HAS BEEN CONTINUAL DANGER THAT MEXICO WOULD TAKE UNILATERAL ACTION ON 200-MILE PATRIMONIAL SEA, A DANGER WHICH WAS INCREASED BY LEGISLATION TO THIS EFFECT IN U.S. CONGRESS.

6. IN VIEW OF ABOVE-MENTIONED MISSION OF AMBASSADORS CASTANEDA AND TELLO, DEPARTMENT MIGHT WISH TO CONSIDER USG COURSE OF ACTION SHOULD ECHEVERRIA PROPOSAL FIND READY RECEPTION ON PART OF CARIBBEAN AND GULF STATES. WE HOPE, HOWEVER, U.S. VIEWS ON ECHEVERRIA PROPOSAL WOULD BE GIVEN TO HIM IN FIRST INSTANCE AND THAT GOM NOT LEARN OF U.S. REACTION INDIRECTLY THROUGH OTHER CAPTIALS.

7. ACTION REQUESTED: WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY AVAILABLE REPORTS OF ACTIONS OF SPECIAL MEXICAN MISSION ON THEIR TRAVELS IN THE GULF AND CARIBBEAN REGION.
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